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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A filter for providing potable water is provided. The filter includes a housing having an inlet and an outlet, a filter material disposed within the housing, the filter material formed at least in part from a plurality of mesoporous, basic, and reduced-oxygen activated carbon filter particles. Preferably, at least some of the mesoporous activated carbon filter particles are coated with a cationic polymer, and even more preferably, at least some of the particles are coated with a cationic polymer and silver or a silver containing material. Kits comprising filters and information relating to the killing or removal of bacteria, viruses, and microbials are also provided.